

# The Washington Post

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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27, 2005

M1 M2 M3 M4 M5 V1 V2 V3 V4

## Weather

**Today:** Thunderstorms. High 68. Low 48.  
**Thursday:** Partly sunny, late showers. High 66. Low 48.

Details, B8

128TH YEAR No. 143 M2 DC

## GOP to Reverse Ethics Rule Blocking New DeLay Probe

January Change Led Democrats to Shut Down Panel

By MIKE ALLEN  
Washington Post Staff Writer

House Republican leaders, acknowledging that ethics disputes are taking a heavy toll on the party's image, decided yesterday to rescind a controversial rule change that led to the three-month shutdown of the ethics committee, according to officials who participated in the talks.

Republicans touched off a political uproar in January by changing a rule that had required the ethics committee to continue considering

a complaint against a House member if there was a deadlock between the committee's five Republicans and five Democrats. The January change reversed this, calling for automatic dismissal of an ethics complaint when a deadlock occurs.

Democrats rebelled against that and other changes — saying Republicans were trying to protect House Majority Leader Tom DeLay (R-Tex.) from further ethics investigations — and blocked the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct, as the ethics panel is officially known, from organizing for

the new Congress.

Republicans on the committee say they will launch an investigation of DeLay's handling of overseas trips and gifts as soon as the impasse over the rules is broken. The Washington Post reported last weekend that Washington lobbyist Jack Abramoff charged DeLay's airfare to London and Scotland to his American Express card in 2000.

House ethics rules bar lawmakers from accepting travel and related expenses from registered lobby-

See ETHICS, A6, Col. 1



BY GERALD HERBERT — ASSOCIATED PRESS

House Majority Leader Tom DeLay gets a lift from President Bush in Texas.

### Bush Defends DeLay

President Bush opts to take the political risk of coming to the defense of the embattled House Majority Leader. **NATION, A6**

## Muslim Leader Is Found Guilty

Fairfax Man Urged Followers to Train For Violent Jihad

By JERRY MARKON  
Washington Post Staff Writer

A prominent Muslim spiritual leader from Fairfax County was convicted yesterday of inciting his followers to train overseas for violent jihad against the United States.

The jury in U.S. District Court in Alexandria decided that Ali Al-Timimi's words, coming shortly after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, were enough to send him to prison for what prosecutors said will be a mandatory life sentence.

Timimi, 41, who was born and raised in the Washington area and has lectured on Islam around the world, was convicted of inspiring a group of his Northern Virginia followers to attend terrorist training camps abroad and prepare to battle American troops. He was found guilty of all 10 charges against him, including soliciting others to levy war against the United States and contributing services to Afghanistan's former Taliban rulers.

The heart of the government's case against Timimi was a meeting he attended in Fairfax on Sept. 16, 2001 — five days after the attacks on the Pentagon and World Trade Center. Timimi told his followers that "the time had come for them to go abroad and join the mujahideen engaged in violent jihad in Afghanistan," according to court

See TIMIMI, A10, Col. 1

■ U.S. wants terrorist jailed for decades. | **Nation, A9**

## U.S. Figures Show Sharp Global Rise In Terrorism

State Dept. Will Not Put Data in Report

By SUSAN B. GLASSER  
Washington Post Staff Writer

The number of serious international terrorist incidents more than tripled last year, according to U.S. government figures, a sharp upswing in deadly attacks that the State Department has decided not to make public in its annual report on terrorism due to Congress this week.

Overall, the number of what the U.S. government considers "significant" attacks grew to about 655 last year, up from the record of around 175 in 2003, according to congressional aides who were briefed on statistics covering incidents including the bloody school seizure in Russia and violence related to the disputed Indian territory of Kashmir.

Terrorist incidents in Iraq also dramatically increased, from 22 attacks to 198, or nine times the previous year's total — a sensitive subset of the tally, given the Bush administration's assertion that the situation there had stabilized significantly after the U.S. handover of political authority to an interim Iraqi government last summer.

The State Department announced last week that it was breaking with tradition in withholding the statistics on terrorist attacks from its congressionally mandated annual report. Critics said the move was de-

See TERRORISM, A18, Col. 5

## Doctors Influenced By Mention Of Drug Ads

Offbeat Study Finds Familiar Brand Name Can Evoke Diagnosis

By SHANKAR VEDANTAM  
and MARC KAUFMAN  
Washington Post Staff Writers

Actors pretending to be patients with symptoms of stress and fatigue were five times as likely to walk out of doctors' offices with a prescription when they mentioned seeing an ad for the heavily promoted antidepressant Paxil, according to an unusual study being published today.

The study employed an elaborate ruse — sending actors with fake symptoms into 152 doctors' offices to see whether they would get prescriptions. Most who did not report symptoms of depression were not given medications, but when they asked for Paxil, 55 percent were given prescriptions, and 50 percent received diagnoses of depression.

The study adds fuel to the growing controversy over the estimated \$4 billion a year the drug industry spends on such advertising. Many public health advocates have long complained about ads showing happy people whose lives were changed by a drug, and now voices in Congress, the Food and Drug Administration and even the pharmaceutical industry are asking whether things have gone too far.

Nearly every industrialized country bans such advertising, and physicians said the new study raises new questions.

See PRESCRIPTIONS, A12, Col. 1



BARCLAYS CAPITAL VIA ASSOCIATED PRESS

Team members Matty McNair, left, George Wells, Tom Avery, Hugh Dale-Harris and Andrew Gerber celebrate their arrival at the pole with champagne.

## Adventurers Conquer Arctic, and History

Team Guided by U.S. Woman Vindicates Peary by Beating His Time to North Pole

By DOUG STRUCK  
Washington Post Foreign Service

TORONTO, April 26 — Fighting a shifting ice pack and open water that threatened to swallow their dogs, a team of five adventurers reached the North Pole at 9:32 a.m. Tuesday, five hours faster than the record claimed by explorer Robert E. Peary almost a century ago.

The exhausted team members, guided by an American woman, Matty McNair, cracked open a bottle of Mumm's champagne they had carried more than 420 miles across the ice in a gru-

eling attempt to clear Peary's name from doubts that he was able to make it to the pole in just over 37 days.

They toasted, hugged and set up their tent to get some desperately needed sleep. And then they heard voices.

"It was very surreal," Tom Avery, 29, the British mountaineer who organized the expedition, said by satellite telephone from the North Pole. Outside the tent were three Russians and a Czech who had sledged only the last 50 miles, he said. "They had been following our tracks."

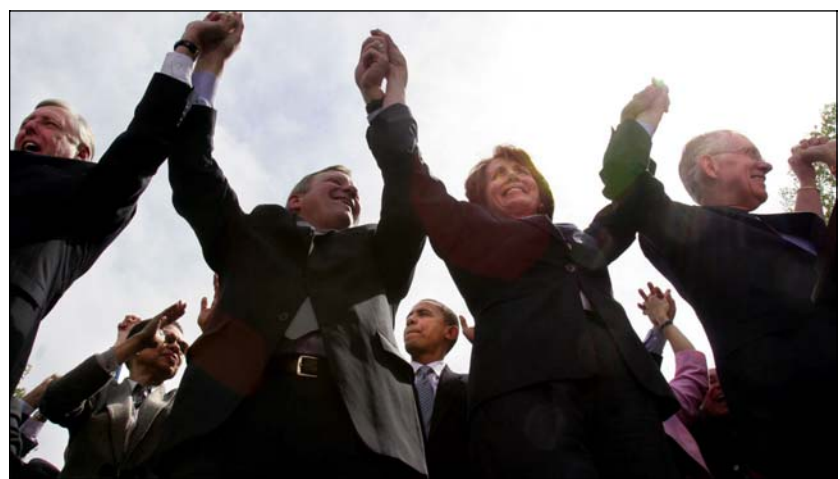
Then, Avery said, "a huge Russian helicopter

came and landed right next to us." It had come to pick up the other team, and it was full of Russian tourists "walking around taking photographs of us. And then they got in the helicopter and flew away."

Left behind was a team of adventurers who had pushed themselves and 16 huskies to the limits of endurance to reach the top of the world. They did so in 36 days, 22 hours and 11 minutes, disproving the critics who said Peary's trip in 1909 was impossible.

See POLE, A18, Col. 1

### INSIDE



BY MELINA MARA — THE WASHINGTON POST

Democrats on Capitol Hill, from left, Rep. Steny H. Hoyer (Md.), Sen. Richard J. Durbin (Ill.), House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi (Calif.) and Senate Minority Leader Harry M. Reid (Nev.) at a rally to show opposition to the administration's Social Security plans.

### Social Security Plan Gets a Senate Hearing

As the Senate finance panel examines President Bush's efforts to restructure Social Security, signs of cracks in Republican support for the plan appeared.

**NATION, A4**



### GOP Pushes Bolton Vote

Republicans may try to bypass a committee and shift the focus of floor debate to U.N. reform.

**NATION, A7**

■ **Faces of the Fallen: A gallery of troops who have died in Iraq.** | **A14-15**

Today's contents are on A2

### DNA Evidence Links Man To Nine Rapes in Maryland

Police tie a Georgia man to attacks in Montgomery from 1987 to 1991.

**METRO, B5**

### National Gallery Halts Guided School Tours

The museum plans to put its docent-led visits for schoolchildren on hold while it reevaluates its education programs.

**STYLE, C1**

### Diary Of a President

Ronald Reagan's personal daily journal will be published.

**STYLE, C1**

### Obesity 'Hype' Assailed

Group counters health warnings, but its own ads and tactics draw criticism.

**BUSINESS, E1**

### Pyramid Pantry

A well-stocked larder can add variety to your diet and take advantage of the newest nutritional guidelines.

■ **Taiwan's Nationalist leader visits mainland.** | **World, A13**



## D.C. 9-Year-Old Dies a Month After Shooting

Police Lack Leads, Suspect In Columbia Heights Case

By DEL QUENTIN WILBER  
and PETULA DVORAK  
Washington Post Staff Writers

It took only seconds for residents and friends to understand the significance of the growing pile of stuffed animals, toys and flowers outside a troubled Northwest Washington apartment building.

Despite their hopes and prayers, Donte Manning, a 9-year-old boy wounded at that spot on a warm spring night, had died yesterday.

Donte, who unexpectedly clung to life after he was hit in the head by a stray bullet March 24, became the 29th juvenile homicide victim in the District since the beginning of last year — a spike in youth violence that has perplexed city leaders and outraged community activists.

Police said they had no leads and knew of no suspects. They expressed frustration at the dearth of witnesses coming forward, even though investigators said there was a large crowd of people outside at the time of the



Donte Manning was shot while playing outside.

See DONTÉ, A8, Col. 1

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